

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01518 081550Z
ACTION INT-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1152

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: TPHY, GB
SUBJECT: ADVANCED COURSES IN REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES AND APPLI-
CATIONS AT U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY FACILITIES, FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA

REF: STATE 140061

1. BEFORE BRINGING CONTENTS REFTEL TO ATTENTION OF MINISTRY OF MINES,
ENERGY, AND HYDRAULIC RESOURCES, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING
WHETHER THERE WILL BE ANY TRANSLATION/INTERPRETER SERVICES PROVIDED
FOR COURSES. IF NOT, WE DOUBT WHETHER THERE ANY GABONESE IN
MINISTRY OF MINES WHOSE ENGLISH IS ADEQUATE FOR PARTICIPATION IN
COURSES. ONLY LIKELY CANDIDATES WOULD PERHAPS BE FRENCH TECHNICAL
ADVISERS, AND EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT PROGRAM IS GEARED FOR HOST
COUNTRY NATIONALS RATHER THAN FOR THIRD COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS.
FURTHER, WE DOUBT THAT ANYONE HERE, OTHER THAN FRENCH ADVISERS,
HAS EXPERIENCE IN USE OF SATELLITE IMAGERY.

2. WERE IT NOT FOR LANGUAGE ISSUE AND PRIOR ENPERIENCE REQUIREMENT,
US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY COURSES WOULD BE IDEAL FOR PARTICIPANT(S) FROM
GABON, WHOSE MINERAL RESOURCES HAVE NEVER BEEN INVENTORIED BECAUSE
NATURE OF TERRAIN MAKES GEOLOGICAL WORK EXPTRMELY DIFFICULT AND
PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE.

3. FYI: SEVERAL FIRMS, INCLUDING TWO FROM US, ARE CURRUNTLY
COMPETING FOR CONTRACT TO MAKE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GABON USING
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REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES. END FYI.TIENKEN

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